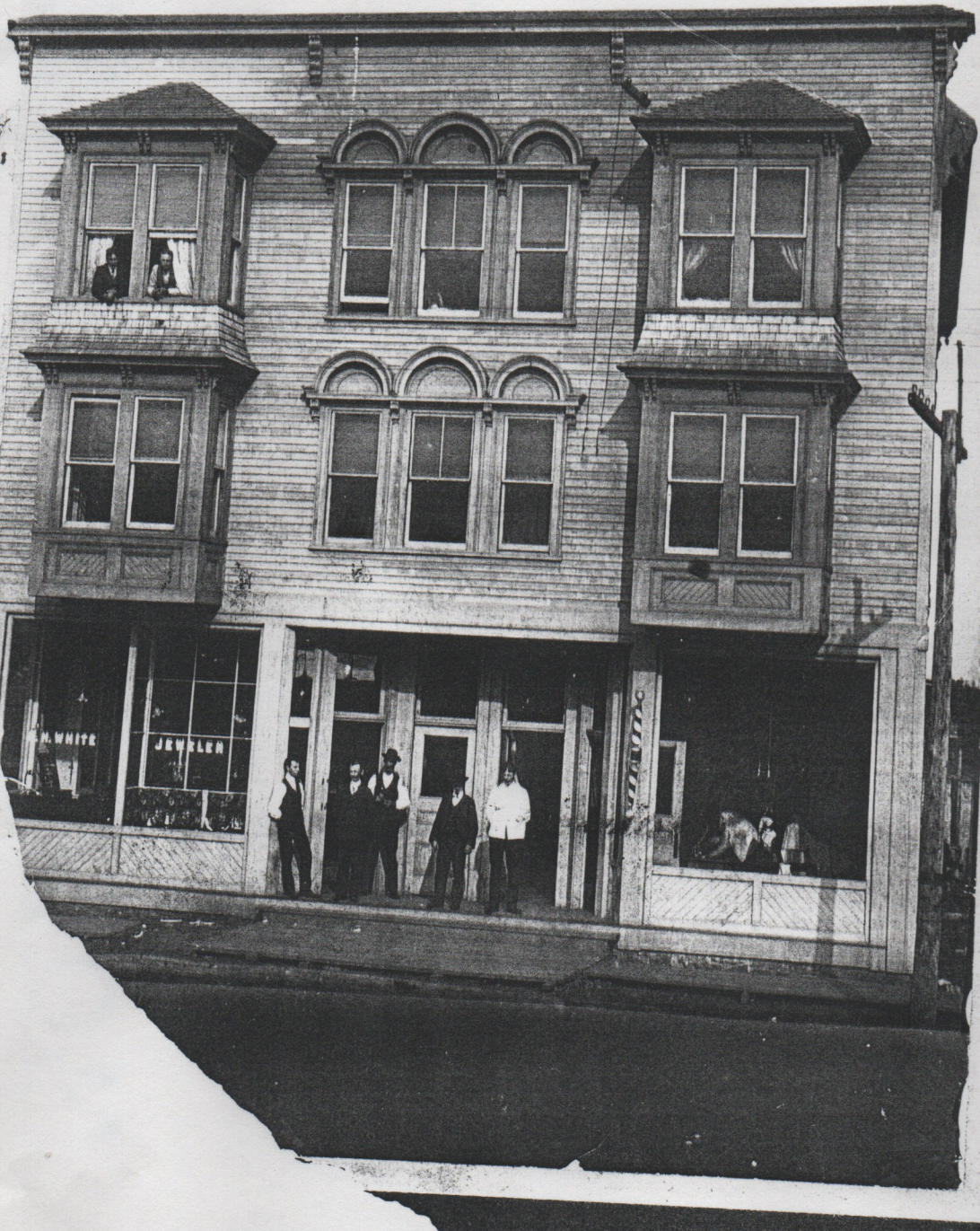
## Business, Buildings and Residential Areas of the Pier.

Album 3
(1 of 2)
2006.48

# WHITNEY PIER
## THEN & NOW

CHURCH ST. FROM LINGAN ROAD

OLD Blue Star
Built By Fred Quirk



1940

ursula's
FEDEX
TRANSIT CAPE BRETON

PAY TODAY
ALL DRINKS
10¢

nic goups who called Whitney Pier home.

chen.

Families who couldn't

everything is closed up."

# almost 100 stores in 1928

1117— Simon Lundrigan, Confect.
1119— Holy Redeemer Church
1151— Benny Cohen, Grocery
1245— St. James United Church
1287— Starr MacLeod, Confect.
1293— Dominion Pharmacy
698— Max Epstein, Dry Goods
702— Alex Campbell, Grocery
710—712 Jennie Green, Dry Goods
714— Al Thorne, Confectionary
716— Al Thorne, Restaurant
722— Victoria Pharmacy
726— Harry Mursky, Restaurant
730— Herman Moraff, Stationary
732— Goodwin David, Meat Market
736— Abraham Mendelson, Confec.
744—746 Crowells Ltd., Grocery
752— Woodill Studio Photos
758—760 Max Natheson, Confect.
764— Wm Condon, Hardware
770— Charles Burt, Shoes
772— Brody's Dry Goods
776— Charles Duchek, Tailor
780— Dan McIsaac, Barber
792— Phil Gavsie, Dry Goods
798— J.W. Rudderham, Plumber
804— Lem Brewster, Tailor
808— Jacob Bonwezski, Confect.
814— N. Mendleson, Dry Goods
818— Louie Gaum, Dry Goods
834— A B Green, Confectionary
836— Morris Gaum, Grocery
842— Sam Gaum, Confectionary
844— Victoria United Church
860— Pier Fire Station
880— Stan Kowaleyzk, Grocery
886— Morris Long, Dry Goods
890— David Cohen, Grocery
928— Salvation Hall
936— Louis Vice, Dry Goods
1156— Imperial Hall School
1244— Tudors Meat Market
1284— St. Alban's Church
1346— Henry Lee, Chinese Laundry
1348— Malcolm MacLeod, Grocery
1370— Fred McInnis, Grocery

Listed are businesses that existed on Victoria Road back in 1928 according to their street numbers;

301— John MacKinnon, Barber
381— Norman Gillis, Meat Market
403— George Robertson, Grocery
425— Neil Campbell, Grocery
431— Ed Phillips, Black Smith
465— Riley's Grocery
510— St. Clair Eldridge, Grocery
516— Norman Crawford, Jeweller
518— Alexander Jones, Grocery
540— Lee Lee, Chinese Laundry
552— Wong Cafe
562— James Lorenzo, Grocery
564— Sam Greenburg, Grocery
568— Joseph Staaz, Shoemaker
572— Simon David, Confectionary
576— Quirk's Auto Garage
582— McMillan's Drug Store
586— Julius Ranni, Dry Goods
614— Vincent Presutti, Barber
626— Morris Begun, Dry Goods
628— Archie Nathanson, Grocery
636— Frank Sherman, Dry Goods
646— Dan Gillis, Grocery
648— Hyman Harrison, Dry Goods
654—656 Victor Silberman, Confect.
666— Ephraim Feder, Jeweller
672— Wilfred Smith, Tailor
674—680 Albert Leith, Dry Goods
684— Ida Green, Dry Goods
643— Abraham Joseph, Barber
675— Gideon Philips, Grocery
681— Eddy Jospeh, Barber
693— J. Khattar, Confectionary
765— Khattar's Theatre
733— Quirk's Billard and Poolhall
743— Sam Wah, Chinese Laundry
833— D.Gallivan, Groc/Hardware
851— George Myers, Confectionary
859— James Currie, Physician
1003— Orange Hall
1023— Edward Buffett, Grocery
1033— James Muleahey, Grocery
1039— Stan Baird, Shoe Repair
1045— Whitney School

J. McAULAY'S HOUSE

W. R. CLIFFORD'S HOUSE

Mc LASKIN'S HOUSE

H. Angel's House

Lingan Rd.
PIER

M. Phillip's House

Upper Broadway
PIER

R. Ellis's House

West St
PIER

St Alban's Rectory

Victoria Rd
PIER

M. Morrison Home
Payne street

G. McFadgen's Home
Mechanic St - Ashby.

C. Iron's Home
Victoria Rd

G.A. LIBBEY'S Store. LINGAN R
PIER

N. ROSEMAN'S HOUSE. WEST ST.
PIER

RAYTEL PHOTO
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Victoria Road, North, Whitney Pier, Sydney, N. S.

PEPSI
Mac Leod's Dairy
CIGS 4.778 T

Donated by
Elizabeth Beaton

Donated By
Elizabeth Beaton 1991

# Erudite Plumber

By CYRIL ROBINSON

*Standard Maritimes Bureau*

Cape Breton's "Mr. History," believed to be the only self-educated plumber in the world to receive an honorary Master of Arts degree from a university, says it's all a hobby to him.

Slight, blue-eyed, gray-haired Albert Almon, 76-year-old plumber and historian, has spent half a century peeking into the past. He is recognized as the outstanding authority on early Cape Breton history.

"I have always liked to read factual stuff," he said. "Never could get interested in fiction. When I'm not reading up on history I read detective books for relief — true detective stories, though."

Almon is a firm believer in the saying that truth is stranger than fiction. He says it is quite possible that men were once mermen and thinks America was discovered long before Christopher Columbus sailed.

"The first discovery of America," he said, "is believed to have been made by a Chinese priest missionary—Hosli-Shin—who, according to the Chinese Year Book for the year 499 AD, came to Fusang on the Pacific coast of what is now British Columbia and remained there for some time. Whether this visit was a voyage of discovery or the accident of a storm-driven ship is not known. That was 1,000 years before Columbus made his discovery of the New World. What lends color to the probable truth of this story is the strong resemblance of the Pacific coast Indians to the Chinese people."

## Cites St. Brendan Theory

The history-minded plumber, who is also a whiz at fixing clogged drains and leaky pipes, says there is evidence to indicate the first to land on the Atlantic coast of North America was an Irish monk, St. Brendan. "Brendan," said Almon, "had previously made an unsuccessful voyage of seven years searching the Great Se before he finally, in 534, found 'e land the Great,' as he named the whole Atlantic coast from Ca Breton to Florida."

He isn't dogmatic about the theory that men were once fish but draws attention to a historical tale centring about Nicholas Denys, 17th century governor of Acadia (Nova Scotia). "The discovery of the merman is said to have been made in Cape Breton waters in 1656," he said. "One of Denys' subordinates, Capt. Pierre Roleau, noticed the man-fish while their ship lay at anchor, his attention being drawn to the commotion the merman made in the water. He and his men, with others from two nearby ships, tried to capture the strange man-fish, but failed. One of the sailors, in throwing a loop rope over the merman, did not draw quickly enough and the merman slipped through the noose and appeared on the surface again farther out to sea. He quickly brushed the wet mossy hair from his face with his web-fingered hands, to clear his eyes. The fishermen watched some time for his movements, but the wily merman, knowing their designs, did not reappear."

Almon agrees that the merman story sounds fantastic but reminds you that scientists claim millions of years were required for each stage of development in the evolution of man from the lowest — the fish form — to the highest. "Maybe," he says, "it's not so mythical after all."

## Found Admiral's Skeleton

But behind most of this amazing plumber's research lies unquestioned authenticity. As a boy he was interested in drawing maps and more than 57 years ago he became greatly interested in the old fortress at Louisburg, Cape Breton, considered in the 18th century to be the strategic guardian of the St. Lawrence. He visited the site, made plans of the old ruins and located the grave of the Duc d'Anville, French admiral who commanded an ill-fated armada from France which sought but failed to recapture Louisburg from the English in 1745. From his investigations, Almon decided on the point where d'Anville was buried, gained permission to dig, and in 1900 found his skeleton.

Piece by piece, by writing to the National Library in Paris, to authorities in England and elsewhere, Almon gathered a wealth of material regarding Louisburg and later wrote a booklet on it. He was also instrumental in having four monuments erected at Louisburg; one to the Order of St. John of God, whose brothers had operated the King's Hospital at the fort during the French regime; one to all of those buried in the old fort's cemetery; one to the Nuns of the Congregation de Notre Dame who conducted a school in the town; and the fourth to Major Newton, who died and was buried at Louisburg.

In the museum at Louisburg today you'll find such relics as cannon balls, maps, bits of flags and dishes, old books, and other valuable material which Almon collected over the years and donated to the museum — enough to fill two large cabinets. More than any other individual his efforts have helped make the Louisburg collection complete.

## Praised by Pope

On the wall of his living room at 33 Reserve street, Glace Bay, a diploma he received from Pope Pius XII in 1939 hangs in a prominent place. Near to it is a recent letter from the Vatican commending him for his contributions to the Vatican library and for his work in helping to establish a monument to the Order of St. John of God.

Equally prized by Almon is the honorary Master of Arts degree he received from St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, on June 4, 1947.

"I guess I'm the only plumber in existence who ever got one of them," chuckled Almon. He recalled that a few days before the commencement exercises at the university he received a letter asking him to attend and receive the degree. He had just returned home after fixing a leaky bathroom pipe in a Glace Bay home. "It was a big surprise to me," he commented.

With typical modesty, Almon thinks there must have been some mistake about the order of things at St. Francis that June day. "I was at the top," he said. "They gave me my degree ahead of all the rest, including Archbishop MacDonald and Rev. Mother St. Ignace. You better not say that. It doesn't seem right. Imagine getting a degree and only two days at college." Almon recalled that his marching partner in the parade of honorary MA's was Neil F. MacNeil of New York, then assistant managing editor of the New York Times.

## Efforts Commended

Cap and gown replacing the overalls he habitually wears during his work day, the plumber heard his research efforts commended by Father MacDonnell as the degree was conferred. "By the zealous pursuit of a hobby, Albert Almon has made himself illustrious in historical research and writing. He has done archaeological work of special importance in connection with the restoration of the old fortress at Louisburg. He has, moreover, amassed an outstanding collection of rare books dealing with Cape Breton history. In these fields, he has so excelled that he can safely be called the outstanding living authority on the early history of Cape Breton. This is the accomplishment of a tradesman of limited formal education . . . I ask you, Rev. Chancellor, to deliver into his hands, hardened with honest toil, a diploma well deserved for eminent scholarly achievement."

This was quite a tribute to a man with but a common school education. Born at George's River, Cape Breton, he attended school at Sydney. After reaching Grade 8 he began clerking in a Sydney hardware store. Subsequently he worked in the Sydney steel plant and as engineer at St. Joseph's Hospital after which he opened up his plumbing business. He is proud of his trade, in which he has been engaged 50 years.

Standard—Abbass

**CLOGGED DRAINS** are Albert Almon's business, history his hobby. The self-educated Glace Bay plumber-historian holds honorary MA degree from a university.

# Place Names

Sherwood — Rev. Dr Doyle McLeod
Colby — Mr Wm Routledge
Ashby — " Henry Darocher
Brooklands — Capt John Conway
Ferndell — " Morgan
Sunnydene — " Martin,
Drumbo — D. J. Kennedy.
Kilarney — Capt McNeil.
Trebarwith — Donald John McNeil.
Chadhaven — Capt Townsend
Macclesfield — Capt Chas Muggah
Mount Pleasant " Jos Muggah
Willow Cottage — Mrs Reid
North Wold — Mr Fred Clark,
Petersfield — Senator McLennan.
Charing Cross — Mr Jas McVey.
Ingoville Place — Senator Bowman.
Pt Amelia — H.W. Crawley - Crowley's Creek

GLEBE

Convent of the Holy Redeemer

WHITNEY PIER GARAGE CO LTD
Primrose

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MURAL Painted on the wall of the leisure men's room at the James St. Portables. See if you can pick out - Harry Muldoon, Chum Walsh, Mick Graham, Phonse & Roy Jessome, Abbey, Ashey, Jim & Mike Neville, Roddy Black, Donnie Campbell, Lauchie A. MacDonald, John Fraser, Dave MacLeod, Roy Nichol, Jack Hawco, Manning MacDonald, Boxer Rolls, Ray MacIsaac, Stan Wadden. (Painted by Charlie Dawe, Maloney St.)

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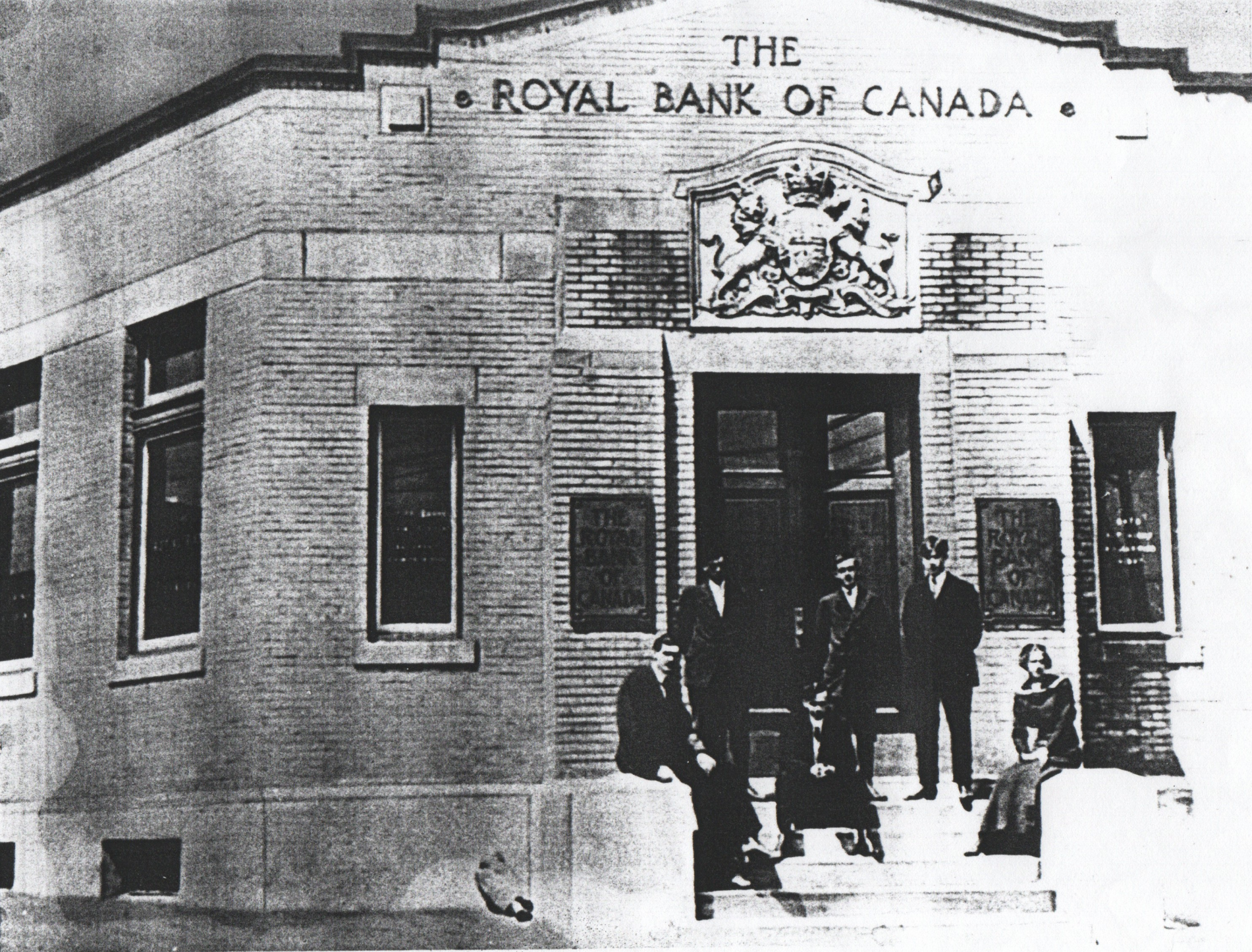
Photo # 11 taken from west side of Subway in field camera lens

4 feet 9 inches from ground on tipod, looking North East.


THE
ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

Narrow Gauge Crossing
December 15/ 1967

Notice Stop sign is to Low.

Location
Unknown

Buster Ross House
Iris Crawford's Store
Lingan Road

BILLIARD
HALL
POOL ROOM

WHITNEY PIER
MEAT MARKET

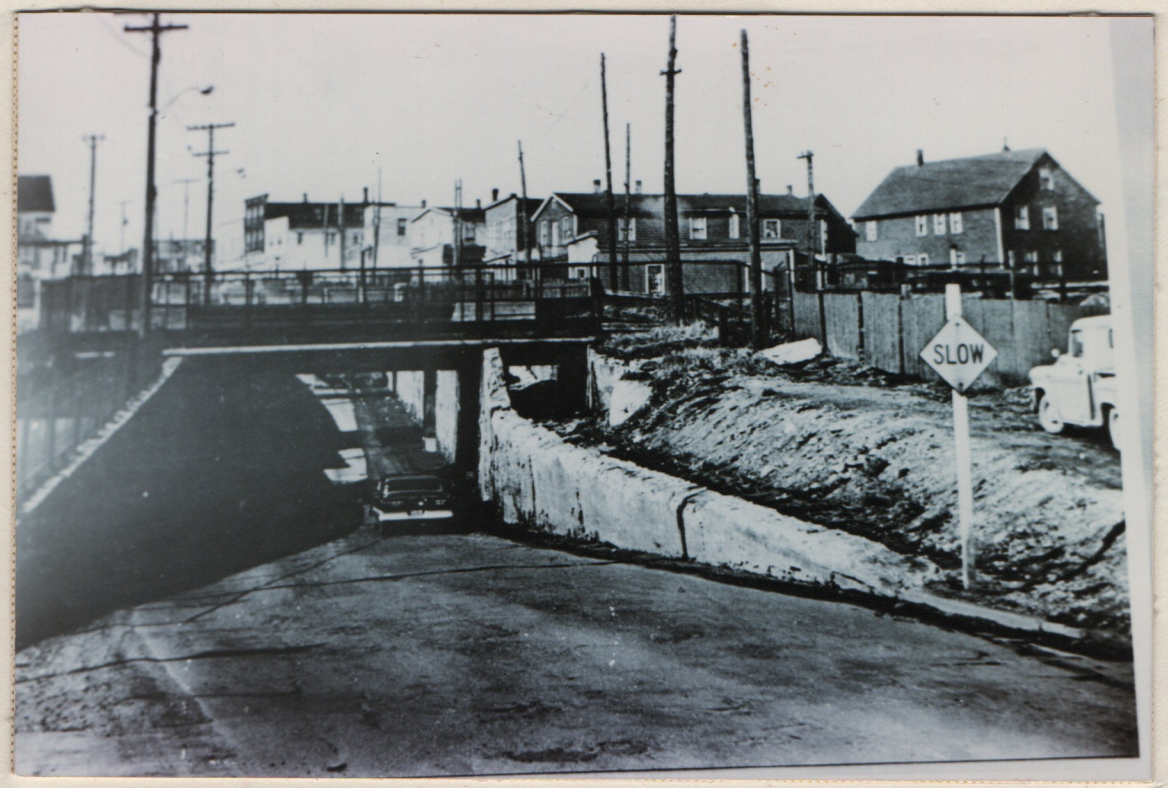
COMMUNITY
HOUSE

# Modern "Town" Within City

—Photo by H. O. Do

Over 8000 inhabitants living on the other side of the 'subway' in Sydney call the district of Whitney Pier their h
Boasting two theatres, seven churches, modern schools, a well laid out main street, the Whitney Pier district may well be termed a 'modern town' within the city of Sydney. Many of the inhabitants of the Whitney Pier district are employed at the Sydney steel mills and the International Piers, where the products of the steel mills and coal mines of Cape Breton are shipped to the four corners of the world. Pictured above is a view of Victoria Road, the main STREET.

1910


SLOW

WABANA ORE Carrier
ORE Pier Docked
February 1957

• FEB • 57

Malcolm MacLeod's Home
Corner of MacLeod St +
Broadway -

Catherine Street 1990

CAMERON ST
12/88

View from Walton's Lane.
Jan. 89.

104 Webster St
Lucy Applett
AND Robert's
Home

590D
JOHN DEERE

STEEL PLANT TEARDOWN
Donated By Daniel William Wareham.
65 EAST STREET.

**Sysco General Office**
**1990**

SYDNEY STEEL
CORPORATION
Administration Building

DANIEL WILLIAM WAREHAM
65 EAST ST
SYDNEY NOVA SCOTIA
B1N 1S7

MAY 87

EXPLORER
Ford
645B

FACTORY
DISCOUNT
Furniture & Flooring
584
CLOSED
VALUE CHECK
ALL TYPES

Demolition of Sydney Forum.

5.87

SEARS
PIER DRUG STORE
ROBBS

*Sydney Ship Supply, a division of I.M.P. Group Limited, had a complete make over this summer. The old premises were torn down April 1st and were replaced with a single story, 50 ft by 100 ft Butler building.*

## SEA KING ANNIVERSARY

Value
CHECK
Firestone
GAS
CUT
56.9
57.8
60.8

SEYMOUR'S HARDWARE

CATERPILLAR
EXPLORER II

Simon David Store Demolished
1995.

SAFETY

PEPSI
6/49

CORNER — VICTORIA RD & DOMINION ST. WHITNEY PIER

9/

MAIL POST
Postal Station

Polish Village

IMPERIAL HALL

MANSE ST.

STOP

SLOW

50

THE HEWAK'S
8509

BFK-285

STOP

NICOLE-AIN ST

# Businesses, Buildings, and Residential Areas of the Pier

Album 3
(2 of 2)
2006.48

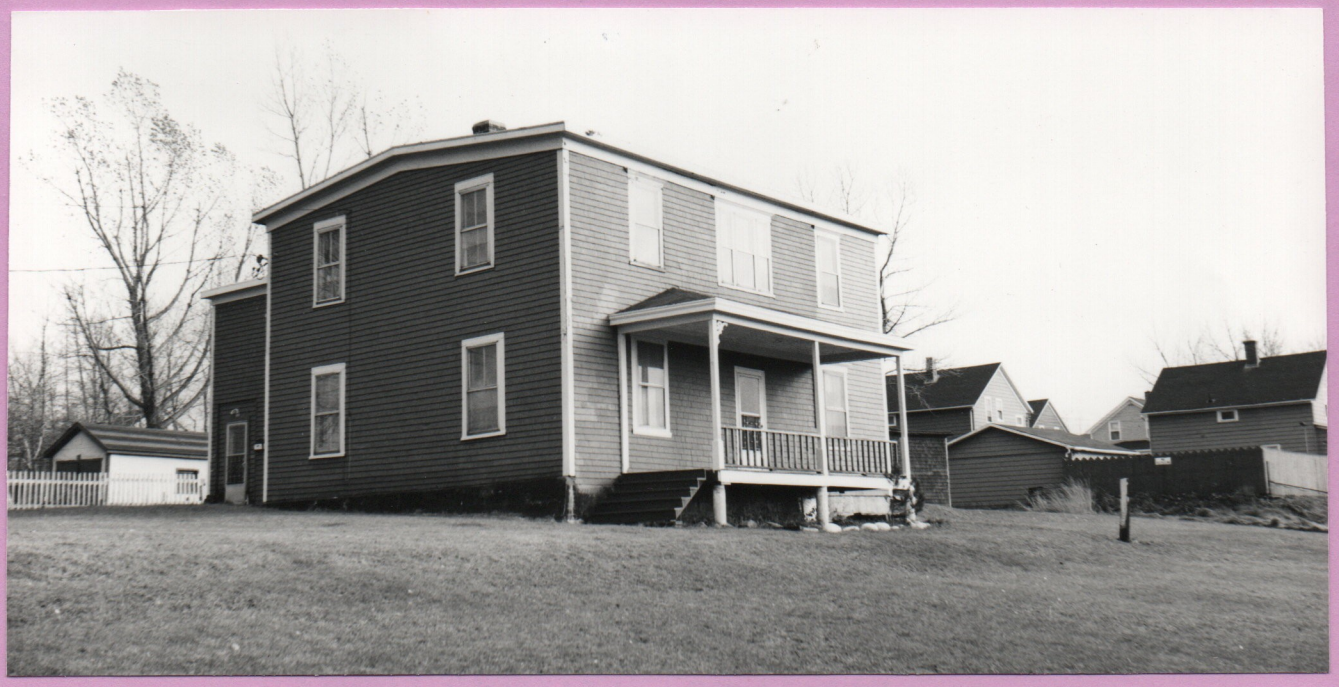
BROADWAY

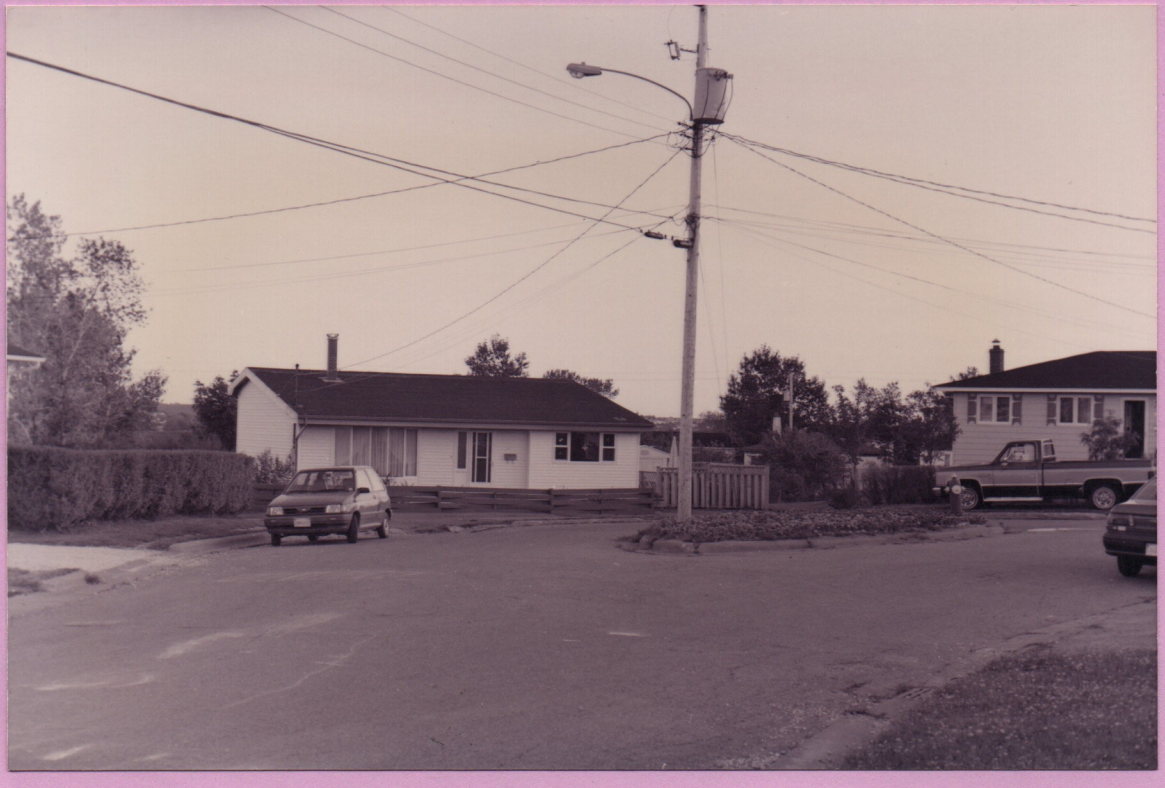
CARL NEVILLE
MEMORIAL PARK
DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF CARL NEVILLE. CITIZEN, FREEMAN, LEADER. WHOSE LIFELONG AMBITION AND EFFORTS WERE TO MAKE COMMUNITY LIFE BETTER FOR HIS FELLOW HUMAN BEINGS.
MAYOR: CITY OF SYDNEY 1969-1972
DEDICATED THIS 26TH DAY OF JUNE IN THE YEAR 1981

RAYTEL PHOTO
PHONE 562-1277
P.O.BOX 21
SYDNEY, N.S.

RAYTEL PHOTO
PHONE 562-1277
P.O.BOX 21

Bottom of
Matilda Street.





1901-4

SAMUEL MACDOUELL - DRIVER

- (IN FRONT OF HORSE -

BELIEVED TO BE THE BAKERY (BURNS) ON SITE OF WHAT BECAME LATER THE 1ST ROYAL BANK

DANNY MACNEAL

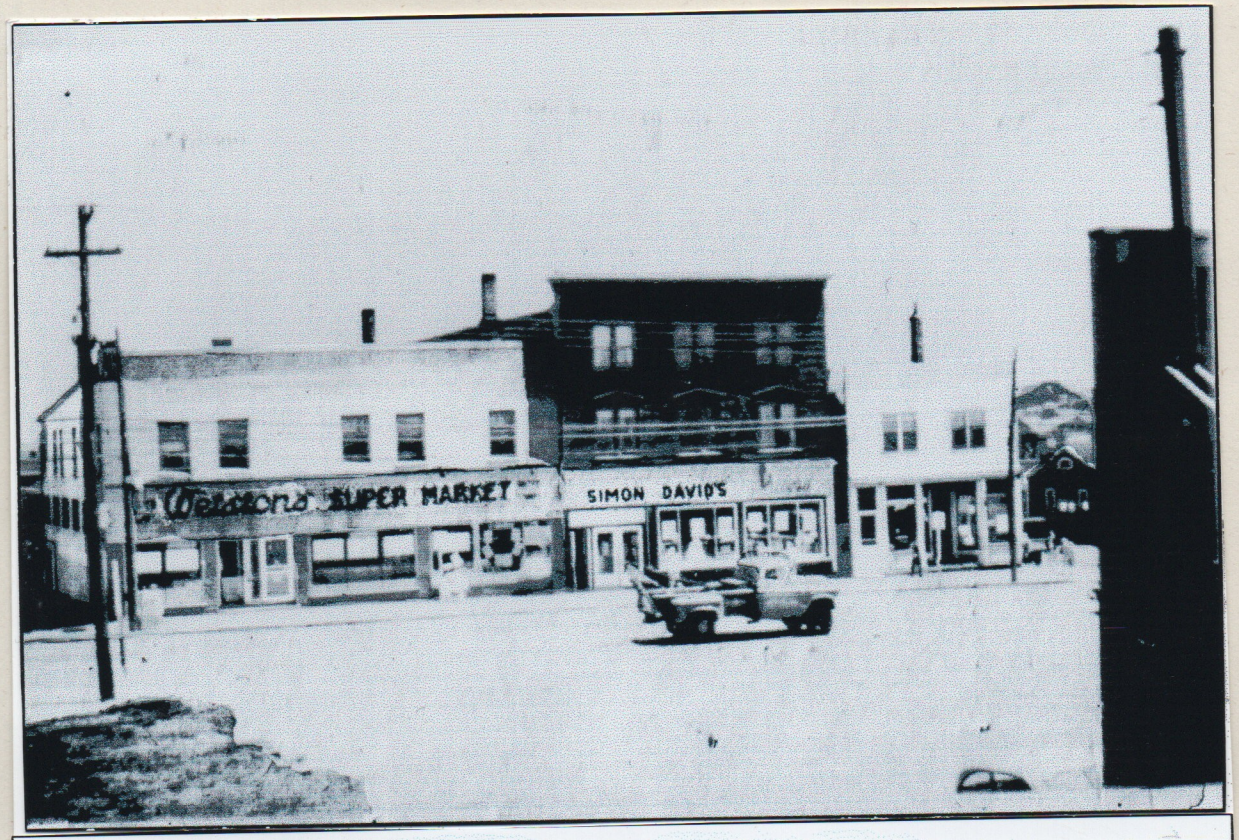
539-9086

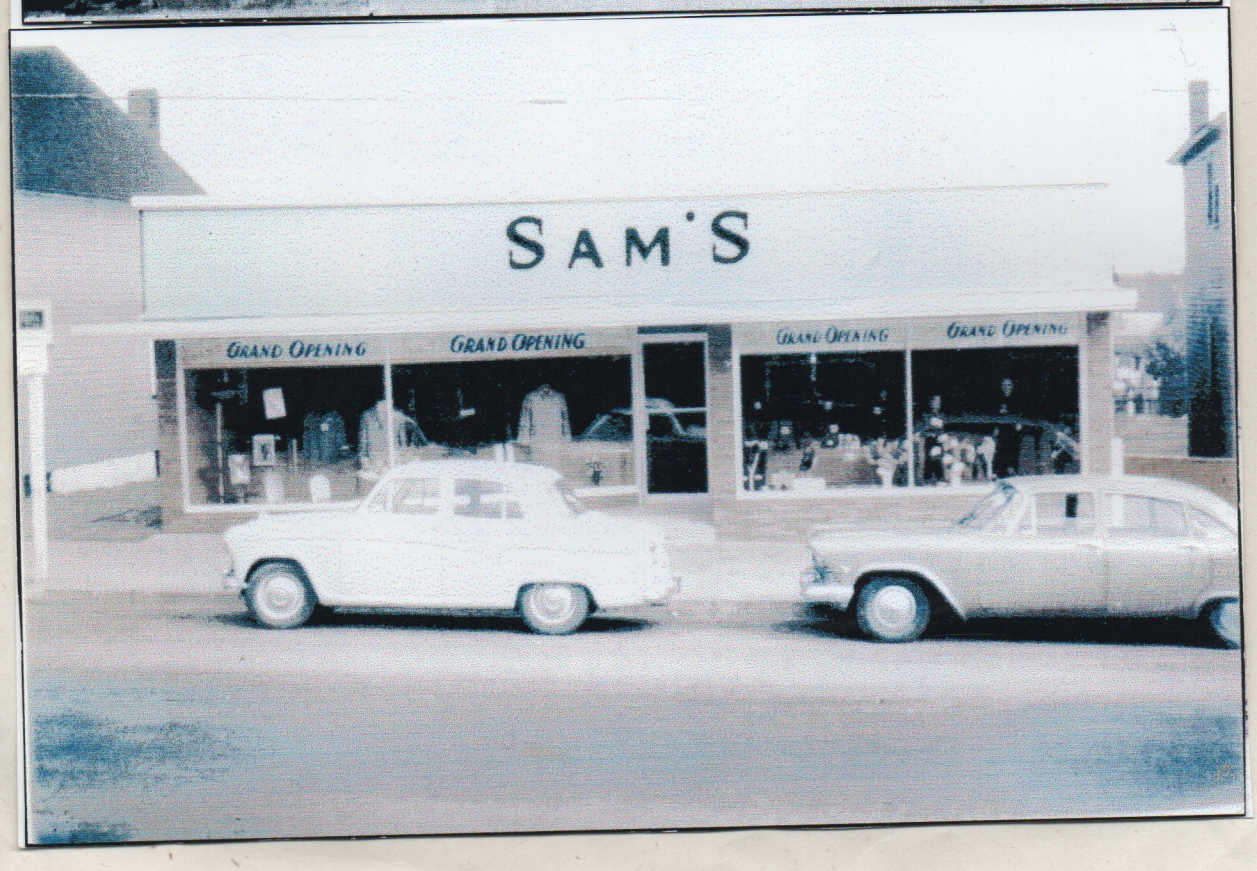
104 TAYLOR ST.

DATE 12

Victoria Road, North, Whitney Pier, Sydney, N. S.

SELRITE STORES


SUPER MARKET
SIMON DAVID'S


SAM'S
GRAND OPENING
GRAND OPENING
GRAND OPENING
GRAND OPENING

CALVIN W. MACLENNAN
REAR 334 GEORGE STREET
SYDNEY, N.S. B1P1V3

EDIT UNION
CLOSED
WHITNEY CREDIT UN

MORAFF'S YARNS & CRAFTS

TOYOTA

SLOW

WHITNEY
TONING SALON
867-1611

J. W. RUDDERHAM LTD.
885
CLOSED
12–1 P.M.

GAS
IRVING
OIL

IGA
2.98
562 2251 DAY DELIVERY
STEAK ON A BUN
& FRIES 3.19
2LT PEPSI 1.49 WITH
ANY PIZZA
KENNY'S PIZZA

IRVING

PIZZA
PALACE

PEPSI

RAYTEL PHOTO

BERNIE'S BAKERY

PEPSI
KENNY'S
Pizza
STOP
870
CLOSED

IGA
2.98
562 2251 DAY DELIVERY
STEAK ON A BUN
& FRIES 3.19
2LT PEPSI 1.49 WITH
ANY PIZZA
JENNY'S PIZZA

needs
convenience store
PEPSI
WE NEVER CLOSE

CITY OF SYDNEY
Parks & Recreation Dept.
WHITNEY PIER DIVISION

WYLDE'S
CATHERINE ST.
CARL NEVILLE
OG WALSH
ST. ALBANS AVE.

PEPSI
BANANA SPLITS

Firestone
COMPLETE CAR CARE
Shell
START
TURNS
GAS
OUT
WALK

FACTORY
DISCOUNT
Furniture & Flooring
584
CLOSED
VALUE CHECK
ALL TYPES

NEW DAWN GUEST HOME
DOMINION ST. W. PIER
"SAILORS HOME"
12/86

PETRO-CANADA
PETRO-CANADA
Full Service

1043
LeBlancs 3/89
Printing.
Victoria Rd.

LAURIER ST.
VICTORIA RD.

DANIEL WILLIAM WAREHAM
65 EAST ST
SYDNEY NOVA SCOTIA
B1N 1S7

WHALEN

12

WHITNEY PIER

10/90

VICTORIA RD.
WHITNEY PIER

2/92

SYDNEY HARBOUR
5.87

MODERN CITY DAIRY LTD.
JAN 87
Jan 87.